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NOTES FROM PACIFIC COAST OBSERVATORIES.

OBSERVATIONS OF ECLIPSE SHADOW-BANDS OF AUGUST
30, 1905.

I regret exceedingly to say that through my oversight the valuable observations of shadow-bands made under my direction at the eclipse of August 30th, by Dr. VIGGO STROYBERG, of Copenhagen, were omitted from the account of the Lick Observatory-Crocker Eclipse Expedition to Spain published in No. 106. I trust that Dr. STROYBERG will pardon the great injustice thereby done to his skill and enthusiasm. Following is quoted from his record of observation:—

“My place of observation was about 10 meters immediately north of the instruments. I had spread on the ground two white sheets of cloth, each between two and three meters square.

“Nearly one minute before totality the shadow-bands began. Their distance apart was about 15cm, and the dark lines were 3cm to 4cm broad. The velocity was so great that it was impossible to estimate it. I saw the lines straight and not undulating. I fixed the position of the lines with a long wooden bar, which I laid on the eastern sheet parallel to the lines. Their motion was southeastward and perpendicular to the bar. About 15 seconds before totality the shadow-bands disappeared.

“About 20 seconds after totality was over the shadow-bands came again. They had nearly the same motion and direction as before totality. The direction was fixed with another long wooden bar on the western sheet. They were very small and only a few of them could be seen. Their distances were nearly the same as before totality.”

The azimuths of the two bars were measured and found to be, for the first, 35° south of west, and, for the second, 32° south of west. The directions of motion were therefore 55° and 58° east of south, respectively.

I do not venture an interpretation of these phenomena, nor a criticism of existing theories as to their cause; but it is of interest to note that their direction of motion was very nearly that of the Moon's shadow.

W. W. CAMPBELL.